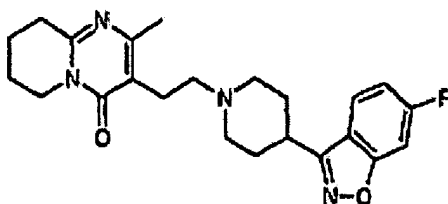


Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

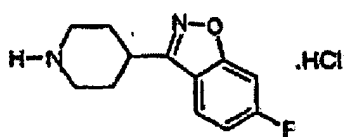
Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented) A process for the preparation of risperidone of Formula 1:

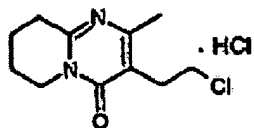


Formula -1

Which process comprises reacting 6-fluoro-3-(4-piperindinyl)-1,2-benzisoxazole monohydrochloride of Formula-2 with 3-(2-chlorethyl)-6, 7, 8, 9-tetrahydro-2-methyl-4H-pyrido[1,2,a]pyrimidin-4-one monohydrochloride of Formula -3:



Formula-2.HCl



Formula -3.HCl

at a temperature from 25°C to 90°C, in a condensation reaction in the presence of a base after completion of the condensation reaction, diluting the condensation reaction mass with ice-cold water to precipitate risperidone; filtering and drying the precipitated risperidone to obtain crude risperidone; and crystallizing the crude resperidone in an aqueous solvent to produce risperidone.

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2 (cancelled)

3 (cancelled)

4. (previously presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein the condensation reaction is carried out in a mixture of water and one or more water-miscible solvents.

5. (previously presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein the condensation reaction is carried out in water as the only solvent.

6. (currently amended) A process according to claim 273, wherein the water-miscible solvent is selected from methanol, ethanol, propanol, isopropanol, acetone, acetonitrile, dimethyl formamide, dimethyl sulfoxide, and mixtures thereof.

7. (previously presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein the condensation reaction is carried out at a temperature in the range from 40 to 90°.

8. (previously presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein the base is selected from sodium or potassium carbonate, sodium or potassium bicarbonate, and sodium or potassium hydroxide.

9. (previously presented) A process according to claim 8, wherein the base is sodium carbonate.

10. (currently amended) A process according to claim 273, wherein the water-immiscible solvent is selected from dichloromethane, dichloroethane, chloroform, ethyl acetate, toluene, benzene, and mixtures thereof.

11. (original) A process according to claim 10, wherein the water-immiscible solvent is dichloromethane.

12. (currently amended) A process according to claim 273, wherein the water-immiscible solvent extract is extracted with 10-15% aqueous acid.

13. (previously presented) A process according to claim 12, wherein the acid is selected from the group consisting of hydrochloric acid, hydrobromic acid, tartaric acid and acetic acid.

14. (previously presented) A process according to claim 13, wherein the acid is hydrochloric acid.

15. (original) A process according to claim 14, wherein the pH of the aqueous acidic extract is adjusted to basic with ammonia and is further extracted into dichloromethane.

16. (previously presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein the crude risperidone is crystallized in an aqueous solvent selected from aqueous acetone, aqueous methyl ethyl ketone, aqueous methyl isobutyl ketone, aqueous acetonitrile and aqueous dimethylformamide, to produce risperidone.

17. (original) A process according to claim 16, wherein the aqueous solvent is aqueous acetone.

18. (previously presented) A processing according to claim 1, wherein the 3-(2-chlorethyl)-6, 7, 8, 9-tetrahydro-2-methyl-4H-pyrido[1,2,a]pyrimidin-4-one monohydrochloride of Formula -3 is prepared starting from 3-(2-chlorethyl)-2-methyl-4H-pyrido[1,2a]pyrimidin-4-one.

19. (original) A process according to claim 18, wherein the 3-(2-chlorethyl)-2-methyl-4H-pyrido[1,2a]pyrimidin-4-one is hydrogenated in the presence of a metal catalyst and hydrogen pressure.

20. (original) A process according to claim 19, wherein the metal catalyst is Raney nickel.

21. (original) A process according to claim 20, wherein the hydrogen pressure is 70-80 psi.

22. (previously presented) A process according to claim 21, wherein the hydrogenation reaction temperature is 28-35 ° C.

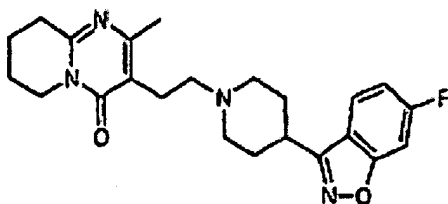
23. (cancelled)

24. (currently amended) A process for preparing crystalline risperidone comprising ~~crystallizing the condensed product obtained by reacting in a condensation reaction~~ 6-fluoro-3-(4-piperidiny)-1,2-benzisoxazole monohydrochloride with 3-(2-chlorethyl)-6, 7, 8, 9-tetrahydro-2-methyl-4H-pyrido[1,2,a]pyrimidin-4-one monohydrochloride ~~or crude risperidone in an aqueous organic solvent selected from aqueous acetone, aqueous methyl ethyl ketone, aqueous methyl isobutyl ketone and mixtures thereof~~ and diluting the reaction mass with water to precipitate crude risperidone therefrom and crystallizing the crude risperidone in an aqueous organic solvent selected from aqueous acetone, aqueous methyl ethyl keotone, aqueous methyl isobutyl ketone and mixtures thereof to produce crystalline risperidone.

25. (cancelled)

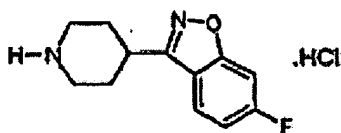
26. (new) The process of claim 24 wherein the crude resperidone is filtered and dried prior to crystallization.

27. (new) A process for the preparation of crystalline risperidone of Formula 1:

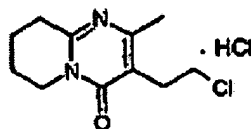


Formula -1

which process comprises reacting 6-fluoro-3-(4-piperindinyl)-1,2-benzisoxazole monohydrochloride of Formula-2 with 3-(2-chlorethyl)-6, 7, 8, 9-tetrahydro-2-methyl-4H-pyrido[1,2,a]pyrimidin-4-one monohydrochloride of Formula -3:



Formula-2.HCl



Formula -3.HCl

at a temperature from 25°C to 90°C, in a condensation reaction in the presence of a base and in a solvent selected from water, one or more water-miscible solvents of a mixture of water and one or more water-miscible solvents and, after completion of the condensation reaction, said process further including the steps of:

- (a) cooling the reaction mass to room temperature and diluting the said mass with water to precipitate risperidone
- (b) extracting the resulting liquid mass of step (a) with a water-miscible solvent;

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- (c) concentrating the extract resulting for step (b) under reduced pressure to produce crude risperidone; and
- (d) crystallizing the crude risperidone in an aqueous solvent to produce crystalline risperidone.